

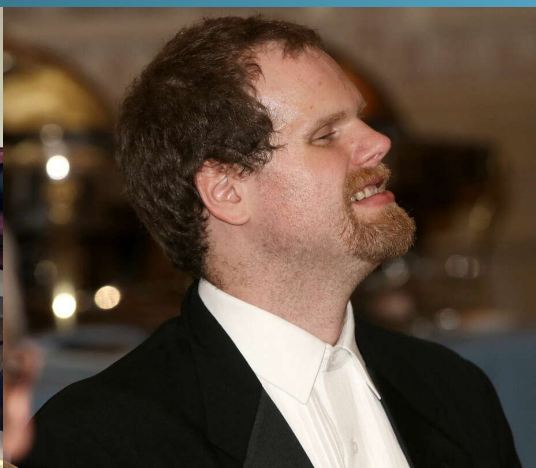
THE VISIONARY



Meet Kyle Frownfelter!

Kyle is NABA's Assistive Technology Evaluator and Instructor. After relocating from Michigan to join the organization, Kyle brought a wealth of firsthand knowledge of adaptive equipment, an efficient teaching style, and enthusiasm for opportunities that exist in this field. Kyle was recently put in contact with the Assistant Director of the Center for Access and Assistive Technology at Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) to help with exam transcription accuracy. A student taking a Calculus course was having difficulty with exam transcription as a blind individual. Kyle, who was a mathematics major in college, jumped at the opportunity to help the student succeed in their academic endeavors and HVCC maintain a system that would accurately transcribe mathematical exams.

"The issues we were experiencing dealt with the fact that Duxbury (a piece of software used to translate documents into braille for embossing) was not properly taking the word document of the exam and automatically transcribing it into a form that the student could read." Kyle was able to convert the Word documents to LaTeX (a type-setting language for mathematics) and then translated that into braille using Duxbury. He then manually edited the braille to ensure that it was presentable to the student. Kyle also recorded the test questions to ensure that there were two modalities if the student had any issues deciphering the braille. The NABA community is inspired by Kyle's willingness to help and use his knowledge of adaptive equipment and programs to improve someone else's experience. We are grateful to have Kyle as part of the NABA team helping to fulfill our mission.



Coming Soon!

*Our new website is under construction! We are working diligently to give you the best experience.
In the meantime, we appreciate your patience and support!*

*If you have any questions or need assistance,
contact Gail Hessney at ghessney@naba-vision.org or (518) 463-1211 Ext. 201.*

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Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to share some recent NABA highlights. NABA's manufacturing center generated a tremendous \$675,000 increase in sales this past year! As it has done over the past eighty years, the center employs blind and visually impaired individuals. NABA is proud of its commitment to delivering competitive-paying jobs in a diverse, inclusive environment.

In other exciting news, Christina Kendall, a highly experienced Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist and long-standing NABA employee, is the new Director of Rehabilitation Services. Christina leads her team in helping individuals of all ages adapt to their vision loss. Additionally, NABA recently opened a new employment center that is fully outfitted with adaptive and assistive technology. This on-site resource provides job readiness skills and job placement services to participants who are entering the workforce for the first time or transitioning to a new career.

NABA's programs and services would not be possible without the generous support of our grantors, individual donors, corporate sponsors, and volunteers. To those who continue to support NABA, we thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura E. Zeliger
Laura E. Zeliger, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer



Albany County Executive, Daniel P. McCoy, and his team tour NABA's Manufacturing Facility!
Did you know blind, visually impaired, and sighted employees work together at NABA's Manufacturing Center to produce safety vests and other items for the government, private companies, and the military?

2023 Visionary Gala

NABA celebrated its annual Visionary Gala on April 27th, 2023, honoring Steven A. Smith Jr., Chair of NABA Board of Directors, and Public Information Officer for the Albany Police Department, for his exceptional leadership and long-standing commitment to NABA's mission.



James F. Carriero



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The Department of Ophthalmology at Albany Medical College



Actor Stephen Lang Visits NABA!

In the spring of 2020, actor Stephen Lang contacted NABA to request training from blind rehabilitation professionals in preparation for the role of "The Blind Man" in the film "Don't Breathe Again." Stephen went through a rigorous month-long training process that included blindfolded training, learning the skills of the long white cane, protective techniques, and much more. You may recognize Stephen Lang from Avatar, Law & Order, Manhunter, Gettysburg, Tombstone, Gods and Generals, Public Enemies, The Men Who Stare at Goats, Conan the Barbarian, and Don't Breathe. In 2020, Stephen Lang graciously framed the NABA Youth's rendition of Van Gogh's *Starry Night*. Returning in the Fall of 2022, Stephen returned to NABA and generously framed our Youth Program's rendition of Rousseau's *Monkey*. Thank you to instructor Patrice Mastrianni, who prepared each tactile canvas so that students with varying levels of visual impairments could feel where to paint!



Scheduling Low Vision Exams

Low vision exams are available by appointment on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Harry M. Judge Vision Rehabilitation Center and at the Saratoga Community Health Center on the last Wednesday of each month.

Low Vision Store

At the Harry M. Judge Vision Rehabilitation Center, NABA's Low Vision Store offers signature items made for the blind and the visually impaired. Our store offers writing guides, low vision writing paper, pens, signature guides, check writing guides, large print check registers, adaptive time devices, UV-protected sunglasses, magnifiers, canes, and more!

Contact: Angel Brassard (518) 463-1211 Ext. 241 / abrassard@naba-vision.org.